

REMARKS

At the time of the Office Action dated January 20, 2006, claims 1-12 are pending in this application. In this Amendment, claims 1-12 have been cancelled, and new claims 13-24 have been added. Care has been exercised to avoid the introduction of new matter. Adequate descriptive support for the present Amendment can be found on, for example, page 26, line 15 to page 27, line 8 of the specification.

Priority

Applicants note that the claim for foreign priority and receipt of the certified copies of the priority document filed February 10, 2004, have not been acknowledged. Applicants hereby respectfully request that the Examiner clarify the record by acknowledging the claim for foreign priority and receipt of the certified copies of the priority documents.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicants also note that the Information Disclosure Statement filed July 26, 2004, has not been acknowledged. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to clarify the record by acknowledging receipt of the IDS and provide a copy of the PTO-1449 form appropriately initialed indicating consideration of the cited references.

Application No.: 10/774,538

Claims 1-12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Shiraishi in view of Matsuura et al.

It is noted that the rejection of claims 1-12 has been rendered moot by cancellation of those claims. Applicants, therefore, respectfully solicit withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-12.

New Claims 13-24

Applicants believe that the applied combination of Shiraishi and Matsuura et al. does not teach the following limitations recited in the new claims.

determining a first average of proportions of image areas to the respective first areas for each color;

determining a second average of proportions of image areas to respective second areas for each color, the second areas aligned in the printing direction and arranged in correspondence with the respective color patches; and

correcting the measurement information regarding the color patches in each first area based on the first and second averages for each color.

Applicants respectfully solicit favorable consideration of new claims 13-24.

Conclusion

It should, therefore, be apparent that the imposed rejections have been overcome and that all pending claims are in condition for immediate allowance. Favorable consideration is, therefore, respectfully solicited.

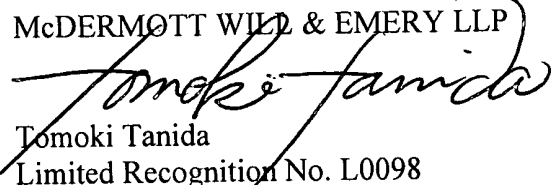
To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper,

Application No.: 10/774,538

including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT WILD & EMERY LLP


Tomoki Tanida

Limited Recognition No. L0098

600 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-3096
Phone: 202.756.8000 SAB:TT
Facsimile: 202.756.8087
Date: May 18, 2006

**Please recognize our Customer No. 20277
as our correspondence address.**